

September 30, 2009

The Honorable Vincent C. Gray
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington DC 20004

Dear Chairman Gray:

I am pleased to provide the first annual report on the status of implementation as required by Sec. 105 in the *Pre-k Enhancement and Expansion Act of 2008*. The Act states that:

The Mayor shall submit to the Council by September 30 of each year, beginning September 30, 2009, by the independent quality evaluation required by section 103, which shall include OSSE's assessment of the:

- (1) Annual achievements made as measured against the benchmarks developed the previous year;
- (2) Number and successes of the quality improvement plans implemented;
- (3) Status of the monitoring, assessments and accountability processes for all programs within the pre-k education system; and
- (4) Results of the current capacity audit of all pre-k programs.

For the 2009 report, for which the benchmarks would not have submitted in the prior year, the annual achievements shall be measured using existing reliable data and that data shall be included, or an abstract thereof, in the evaluation.

The following are some of the highlights of the first year of implementation:

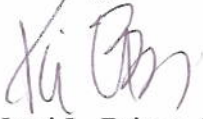
- Align the DC Early Learning Standards approved by the State Board of Education to the selected Pre-k curricula.
- Establishment of high quality program requirements.
- Coordinate the establishment of a mixed delivery system.
- Development of the *Five Year Strategic Enhancement and Expansion Work Plan*.
- Integrate the Pre-k Incentive classrooms as the first wave of the enhancement and expansion efforts.

- Transfer all functions that support the functions related to licensure of childcare programs to the Office of Early Childhood Education.
- Conduct a baseline quality assessment of a sampling of pre-k classrooms in DCPS, Public Charter Schools, and community based organizations.
- Conduct a capacity audit of pre-k programs to determine current capacity of all existing pre-k programs, and manner in which Head Start programs are incorporated in the early care and education delivery system.

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education is responsible for the administration of this multi-pronged approach to early childhood education across all educational sectors. OSSE is committed to increasing access as well as improving the quality of services.

Should you need further clarification, I am available to answer your questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Kerri L. Briggs', is written over the printed name.

Kerri L. Briggs, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Education